

**It's Still
FREE**

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BES Island News Too

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Prime Minister Rutte Visit

The PM at Jong Bonaire

Photo by Wilna Groenenboom

Visiting six islands in seven days. Mark Rutte was said to be on an economic mission - to bring more knowledge to the islands, to make the islands more self supporting, to be able to start their own businesses through education.

He was met at the airport with his delegation: representatives from TNO (technical research institute) MKB (small business) Strukton Infrastructuur, (building), KLM, MultiPost, IHC Merwede, De Baak (leadership) and Dutch press.

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Peaceful demonstrators greeted the governor on her arrival (below)

Bonaire's political scene is still agitated as a result of the conflict between the island's governor, Lydia Emerencia, and the UPB/Santana coalition majority on the Island Council.

Several peaceful demonstrations supporting the Governor punctuated the start of two Council meetings anticipating a confrontation between the coalition and the Governor.

Disagreement in the Council which is chaired by the governor has been festering for a while but was brought to a head when a coalition-appointed commissioner, James Kroon, agreed to three years probation for irregularities in the granting of a taxi permit. He refused to step down from his position as Commissioner saying he had done nothing that required his resignation. He added that he'd not been given sufficient time to prepare an adequate defense, an allegation denied by Bonaire's Public Prosecutor.

The coalition then stepped up their effort to oust the governor, challenging her to resign or face censure, which could conceivably result in her dismissal by The Hague. The UPB released a letter saying the rigidity of the governor "is the lead-

ing cause of serious conflicts (regarding the governance of Bonaire)." They cited numerous examples:

- Travelling and car rental for Curaçao's Flag Day without Council Permission
- Giving the acting governor orders to avoid making decisions on crucial subjects during her absence.
- In 2012 she was absent 112 official working days by Coalition calculation.
- Failure to inform the Council on key matters
- Blocking the approval of the Men's Heaven brothel by excessive delay
- Thwarting a trip by Council members to an agricultural conference in the Dominican Republic
- Failure to properly account for the rental of the Governor's official residence and other "random" instances

During the Council meeting, in addition to lots of acrimony and a lengthy explanation by Commissioner Kroon of his actions, Island Council business, including financial matters, did get done. And the person who was granted the contested taxi license got a formal OK from the entire council except for the PDB members.

Currently the situation between the Governor and the Council appears to be in a cooling off period as suggested by the Governor initially. During his visit to Bonaire Prime Minister Mark Rutte did not publically take sides on the issue.

► THE HAGUE - Policy plans, such as the conservation plan for Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius, need not be translated into Papiamentu and / or English. This applies to all written communications between the governments of the Netherlands and the BES islands, unless it is more efficient "and" the interests of third parties are not violated. The choice to translate or not is the decision of the relevant ministry. According to a recent government press release this was agreed on previously. Incidentally, the conservation plan will appear in August in English as well as Dutch.

► The 2012 Annual Financial Report of the Public Body Bonaire (Island Government) is finished and available to the public. The Annual Report has been placed on the government's website where it can be read or downloaded <http://www.bonairegov.an/nl/downloads>.



► On July 27, 2013 DIBO DiBo (Diversity Bonaire) is organizing the island's first Walk To Talk with sponsorship by Bon Bida Spa and Gym, Magero Laundry, Boat Blanku Marine and Caribe Rental. Two years ago Lloyd Obispo was approached by the Curaçao Pride Foundation about setting up an LGTBI – a lesbian, gay, transsexual, bisexual and intersexual – organization on Bonaire. DIBO is the result and has already conducted several awareness-raising activities. Walk To Talk is the latest. The Fund raiser (\$10, includes drinks and a towel) will be held on Saturday, July 27, beginning at 6 am until 10 am. It will go from BonBida Spa to Mentor, to Kralendijk

and back to Bon Bida. It's healthy for body and mind. Tickets available from the Spa, the sponsors and Lloyd Obispo, email human.rights.bonaire@live.

► During next year's peak holiday tourist season, from December 19, 2013 to January 6, 2014, United Airlines will be operating three weekly flights from Houston to Bonaire, instead of one or two. Service will be offered on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays southbound, with northbound flights operating on the following day.



Incoming Rotary 2014-2015 president Herbert Domacassé gets pinned by outgoing board member: President Jan Kloos, Sergeant at Arms Leonard Domacassé looks on.

► Bonaire Rotary Club held its annual board turnover dinner to say goodbye and thank you to the outgoing board: President Jan Kloos, secretary Ruud Vermeulen, Treasurer Jeaniro Balentien. And to welcome new board members: President Aniek Schouten, Secretary Larry Gerharts, Treasurer Eric van de Keuken. Sergeant at Arms for this new year will be Leonard Domacasse. Incoming president for year 2014-2015 will be Herbert Domacasse.



A special Paul Harris award (above) was given to member Peter Groenendal for his extra efforts over the years in the Club and his initiatives in the community.

Rotary Club Bonaire is in its 32nd year of serving the island's community with projects such as Breakfasts in School.

This year Rotary International Clubs' slogan is "Engage Rotary- Change Lives." For more information go to www.rotarybonaire.org.

► BERLIN--Sea levels could rise by 2.3 meters (7 feet, 6.6 inches) for each one degree Celsius that global temperatures increase and they will remain high for centuries to come, according to a new study released last Monday by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, the leader in the field. Some scientific studies have projected sea level rise of up to 2 meters by 2100, a figure that would swamp large tracts of land from Bangladesh to Florida and most of Bonaire south of Kralendijk.

► 190 new companies registered at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Bonaire during the first six months of 2013, showing continuing growth with an increase of 20% compared to the same period in 2012. However, 66 companies removed their names from the register in the first six months of this year, fewer than the same period last year.

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In all, 334 companies were registered at the Chamber in 2012, more than the year before. Business and personal services were the most significant important growth sectors.

Although 2012 concluded with an increase in the number of company registrations, that growth still fell short compared to the peak year of 2008. All figures are available by sending an e-mail to shendrich@kvkbonaire.com.

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Crown representative Stolte, Governor Emerencia and PM Mark Rutte



At the windup press conference, RCN press chief Lucia Beck moderated.

Rutte visit (Continued from page 1)

The Bonaire delegation was comprised of the Governor, the Chamber of Commerce, Bonaire's Economic Commissioner **Bernie El Hage**, KPMG. Commissioner El Hage commented: "There are opportunities for the development of Bonaire." "The American airlines are flying to Bonaire because they know it's worthwhile." "KLM charges more to come to Bonaire than to Curaçao or Aruba."

The first stop was at Jong Bonaire to meet General Manager **Iona Burgers** and Manager **Bilha Thomas**. As the Prime Minister was shown around Jong Bonaire he seemed very relaxed, having taken off his jacket along the way and taking time to talk with staff members and students. Rutte is still and has been a teacher and seemed in his element. In one classroom he chatted with the students in Dutch, some of whom had recently returned from Rotterdam with the Drum Corps. They talked a little about that,

the kids, a little shy and intimidated by the crowd of reporters and others descending upon their classroom. They enthusiastically showed Rutte the games they were playing, but the Prime Minister had to excuse himself as he couldn't quite follow the Papiamentu. In another classroom he met kids working on a video clip, *J.B. Zomerkamp music 2013* (Jong Bonaire Summer Camp Music). They were led by **Friso Gramsma** and **William Evertsz**, once students at the SGB and Jong Bonaire, who are now activity leaders at Jong Bonaire, now their permanent jobs. Friso and William are two new teachers hired by Jong Bonaire to teach new teachers – to keep Jong Bonaire going and to work with raising the kids' educational level.

Rutte took time to ask them about the economy on the island: "Why aren't there more Bonaireans having their own businesses? Locals should not be afraid to go into their own businesses." "It's difficult,"

they answer, "because of the language (Dutch), education, the difficulty of getting money from the banks."

Ed Janga covering the visit for NOS TV volunteered, "I was one of the first 100 students of Jong Bonaire and one of the 'fruits' of the project. I'm a good example for the students. They should make use of Jong Bonaire."

Rutte was very encouraging to Iona about the work Jong Bonaire is doing. She said, "Put more money into Jong Bonaire. We're doing a good job."

Then it was off to lunch for the Prime Minister, who registered disappointment that the catering was done by Dutch people and not local ones.

After lunch the entourage visited Eco-Power, the Bonaire subsidiary of Contour Global Company.

He was greeted by, Regional CFO of Contour Global, **Stefan Dijkers**; CEO of Contour Global, **Joseph Brandt** and Com-

missioner **El Hage**. The Prime Minister had no words to say, he only listened. The group was offered helmets, safety glasses and ear protection to go into the powerhouse itself. Rutte rolled up his sleeves, took off his tie, got casual, but declined the helmet and the rest and remained in the control room while the others went into the engine area.

At the press conference at the end of the day more of the local press who hadn't been on tour with the Prime Minister during the day showed up. Questions were asked about his position on the current fracas between the island council and the governor. He said that was not his concern. What brought this trade mission to Bonaire? To bring certain Bonairean companies and business in contact with Dutch companies (infrastructure, management etc.) and to see where the opportunities are for good, efficient approaches to bring Bonaire to a higher level.

Hans Biesheuvel, who sits on the social and

(Continued on page 8)



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On the Island Since August 2010 – Lida Dortmund

“In 1980 I went to Curaçao as friends of mine who lived there had a baby and they’d asked me – I was an obstetric nurse – to come and help them. I really liked the island and stayed with them for about a year.

One evening the man of the house, who was working at the Dutch Naval base on Curaçao, brought home a colleague. His name was Dick. We met, we fell in love, then both of us went back to Holland. My wedding gown was made and six months later we got married!

In 1982 our son Daan was born and when he was nine months old we got the news that our request to be sent to the West Indies was granted by the Navy and we could go to Aruba for three years. It was lovely! On Aruba our

daughter Willemijn was born and then our second son Dirkjan. Life in the Caribbean was everything we had hoped for.

After the term was over we went back to Holland and bought a house not far from Amsterdam and lived there for three years. Then again we asked to be sent overseas. This time the Navy sent us to Curaçao. It was a whole different experience because the children were bigger, they went to school and life in general was busy! But what remained was the nice climate and the outdoor life; we enjoyed it to the full extent.

Three years later, in 1992; we returned to Holland. We still had our house in the same town, the children went to the same school and bonded with their friends again and life took its course. And then, all of a sudden,” she laughs, “the kids were grown up. Our daughter Willemijn went to the US and married an American, Dick got his (early) Navy retirement and the boys moved out of the house as well. Then we looked at each other and we knew we had to make a decision.

We immediately thought of Aruba – the Aruba where we’d lived 25 years ago - that quiet little island that we knew and loved. In 2008 we flew to Aruba to check out if we still would like it. Just at that moment Hurricane Omar passed by the islands and Aruba was totally flooded and we got stuck at the hotel for a couple of days. But what we did see of the island wasn’t what we were looking for.

So, we went back to Holland. In May 2010 we visited Bonaire. When we came down the stairs of the plane I felt this unique vibe; there was something in the air... It was four o’clock in the morning and the people at customs were ever so friendly, and all of a sudden I felt so moved that I fell silent. And when Dirk asked me, ‘What’s the matter hon?’ I said ‘I don’t want to leave here ever...’



Lida with some of her original goatskin bags

We went house hunting with Margon Muller and when we came to this house we were sold! The house consisted of three apartments and it gave us some options for the future as we were considering renting to tourists. So, we packed up our seven

cats and one dog and all our stuff – and three months later were living here.

Then, one day I was at Warehouse Bonaire where I saw this woman move aside some cheese cups in the refrigerated display. By her clothes I could see that she wasn’t working there so I asked her, ‘What are you doing?’ And that’s how I met Aletta from Semper Kontentu, the goat farm. She told me about her work and I asked her if she could use some help and she said ‘yes!’” She laughs. “I’ve always felt I was a farm girl in a previous life, so the next morning I got up and went to Aletta’s kunuku. I normally always get lost, but that address in the backwoods I was able to find with no problem whatsoever! Aletta was really surprised to see me so soon!

At the moment I am there every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning. I was eager to learn how to make cheese and I also learned how to milk the goats. It’s not as easy as it might appear and you have to work very hygienically. That comes first!

And so, one thing led to another. Aletta’s goats get little lambs to keep the milk production going. Of course she cannot keep all the males that are born but they stay with her and roam free and have a really



Lida and Dick with their Sphinx cat, Sirius

good life until they weigh about 15-20 kilos. Then they are slaughtered and the meat is sold and eaten. In fact it’s very healthy and organic meat.

Well, in the past, the skin was thrown away and for years it bothered Aletta because those skins are beautiful. It was a shame. Then Aletta learned how to prepare the skins and I started making handbags out of them. I’m pretty sure it was Felicia Schuette who came up with the brand name, ‘Bokibag’.

I didn’t take any specific sewing courses, but I’ve designed and sewn my own clothes since I was 11. I also made clothes for my children; it was my hobby. When I see a goatskin I get very inspired. They are just gorgeous! I start thinking how to cut it, whether I can use the tail, a leg. And then

passed away and so did our dog. But most importantly, our daughter Willemijn had a daughter, Alexandra. They live close to Indianapolis, and we were there when she was born and we stayed for about nine weeks.

We’re very happy with Skype and What’s App and with all the photos and videos, but of course we want to see her in person as well and that means we’re going to travel more often. So far I haven’t been off island except for when Dick was sent to Colombia for medical reasons.

It was one of our worries when we came to live here. You know you’re getting older and what will medical care be like? Of course you cannot expect luxurious and modern hospitals on a small island with few inhabitants like Bonaire.”

Dick says, “And I got a bit worried when they told me I had to go to Colombia, but once we were there everything was perfectly arranged and taken care off. We stayed for three weeks and met all kinds of people—from Saba, St. Martin and Statia - with all different illnesses. Everyone was very positive and satisfied with their treatment and the way things were handled. Now I don’t have any reason to be worried anymore and that is important! You see, when you’re young you worry about schools, education and career, but at this age healthcare is most important. I feel good here and I never want to leave anymore!”

“Soon we’ll be going to Holland to see family and friends, and for me it will be the first time since we moved here,” Lida says “and then we will probably go to the States to see our granddaughter, but around Christmas they’re all coming here. It will be a full house and lots of fun as our children love it here because many things remind them of their childhood on Curaçao.

If you ask me, I don’t have to travel so much, not that I don’t love my family and friends,” she laughs, “but I love it here; the feeling when I step down from the plane and set foot on Bonaire. That feeling beats it all.” ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



“...It was one of our worries when we came to live here. You know you’re getting older and what will medical care be like?”

there’s the way the hairs flow, the crests, the patterns and the colors. Every skin and therefore every bag is different. Each one is a unique piece. I’m still experimenting; it’s quite a learning process because you also have to get a feeling for the material because some skins are too thin or too fat and then it doesn’t work.

After one and a half years I’m still learning. This is something I do at home in my workshop. We get a lot of help from Renate de Boer of the ‘Image’ shop where the Bokibags are being sold and also from Felicia Schuette, who maintains a beautiful Facebook page, ‘BOKiBAG’. People can also order them,” she smiles, “which I find quite difficult and challenging, and then Dick is having a rough time. Ha Ha!!! But I must say that he’s very good at giving advice, he’s a creative guy!

To me it’s very rewarding to help Aletta. I enjoy every minute being on the road to her kunuku. And the location of the farm is exceptionally beautiful, the atmosphere, the work with the animals, the process of the cheese making – it all makes me feel so good! I am a person who enjoys nature and I feel as close to nature there as I can get.

But... in the meantime things have changed a bit. Some of our cats have

Bonaire's Unique Golf Club

Tournament Day at the Club



Bonaire/Washikemba *Mondi* – Every first Sunday of the month the First Bonairean Golf Club, “Piedra So,” founded on April 14, 2004, organizes a tournament over nine of the 18 holes on their beautiful and unspoiled golf course in the very remote area of Washikemba along the rough and always windy east coast of Bonaire.

This time my comrade and I were invited to witness this monthly event. So, early in the morning we jumped on our two off-road motor bicycles to find our way over paved and unpaved roads. The best way is to follow the *Weg naar Lagoen* (Lagoen Road) towards the Animal Shelter. On the right hand side of the road, before you reach the landfill, you will see a little wooden sign with an arrow and the painted word: “golf.” The dirt track starts here.

You have to follow the signs. Leave the ghost house from Boca Washikemba on your left hand side. Pass an old dam. Keep on looking for small wooden signs. Drive your vehicle along an old aloe plantation and go over the ridge. On your right hand side, along the horizon you might notice a natural kind of fence and when you are not the first visitor there might be another car or so.

This Sunday get together was at around half past eight. Fourteen players and a caddy

showed up. Four teams of three players and one team of two players were formed. Every team had to start from a specified fairway. This time the players had to finish the first nine fairways. Start was at 9 o'clock sharp in the morning.

Especially during the dry season it is very hard, if not impossible, to find just one single blade of grass. On this completely eco-friendly unique golf course the greens are brown, consisting of original and unspoiled, untreated brown soil. It is fun and it is different to play on this first Bonairean golf course. This time the competitors are from England, the US, the European part of the Netherlands and, of course, from Bonaire. Spoken languages are: English, Papiamentu and Dutch. As far as all players and the caddy know this is the only course on soil. Some say historically some English-Arabic countries had golf courses on a mixture of sand and oil. This Bonairean course is not polluted at all and absolutely clean, as clean as the fresh breeze from Africa. The players all enjoy the game and because of a certain system of handicaps, Stableford, or restrictions every individual player has an equal chance to win.

Apart from the official rules to play the game, the Bonairean Golf Club has its own addition of nine local rules. The first rule

says: “Animals have priority over every player.” Since there are donkeys, goats, sheep, wild cats, iguanas, lizards, all kinds of small fast moving creatures and birds on and above the course, every player has to be very serious and careful not to hit a living creature by accident. Those animals also create a kind of advantage as the fourth rule reads: “It is allowed to tee up the ball anywhere on natural material.” So, on a regular basis you can notice a player carefully selecting and picking up a nice hard-to-semi-durable piece of excrement of a local donkey. Some players like this piece of poop so much that they carry their particular piece of selected donkey poop with them in or on their trolley during the time of the whole play - some three hours. Never change a winning combination. A right sized piece of poop is not always easy to find.

In the end, at around noon, all competitors have finished their games and while they enjoy some drinks and snacks in the shade, calculations are made and this month's winner is selected. This time **Ca-trien van Manen** was the winner with handicap 24 and 19 Stableford points.

The Piedra So Golf Club has about 40 members. All are very enthusiastic and fond of their club. They are more than willing to introduce a new and or inexperi-

enced player into the fine art of golf. Just call **Jos Zuidam**: 795-1391 or **Theo van der Veen**: 717- 8684. info@piedraso.com and a beautiful and informative web site: www.piedraso.com. ■

Story & photo by *J@n Brouwer*



Camp Fun



Camps for kids begin to wind down this month in preparation for the start of school in August. One activity stands out and one session still remains with some openings. It's the **Sailing Point Kid's Week**. During the first session the participants learned to sail aboard different boats, went water skiing and wakeboarding, swam, snorkeled, had beach games and more under the guidance of professionals Mark and Ruben. It's open to boys and girls between 8 and 15 who are good swimmers. The camp runs from Monday-Friday, 9 am-4 pm but part-time participation is possible. Register via email at sailingpointbonaire@gmail.com or pass by Regatta House and talk with Mark. ■ *G.D.*

Dive Friends and Freewinds Help Sea Turtles



Bonaire/Playa -

On Sunday July 14th, 27 experienced scuba divers collected a lot of fishing line under the *Freewinds* while it was moored at Bonaire's South Pier, after they were granted permission from the harbor master and Captain Napier of the ship. The area around the pier has accumulated a lot of discarded fishing lines over time, and this is a real threat to the critically endangered sea turtles that feed in this area. Sea turtles need to get to the surface to breathe, so if they get caught underwater in fishing lines they will die.

The divers were all volunteers for Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) and many have joined monthly clean up dives on Bonaire since January 2012 when the Fishing Line Project began. On Sunday, using free air provided by Dive Friends Bonaire, another large container of discarded lines, hooks and weights was removed from under South Pier. As a reward for the volunteers' hard work, *Freewinds* invited the divers onboard after the dive for sandwiches and coffee where the ship's photographer took a group picture.

STCB wishes to thank the volunteer divers and safety officers for helping, Dive Friends Bonaire for providing the meeting venue and air fills and *Freewinds* for their great hospitality. ■ *J@n Brouwer*

Voordeelmarkt Bonaire - Bargain Mart Bonaire

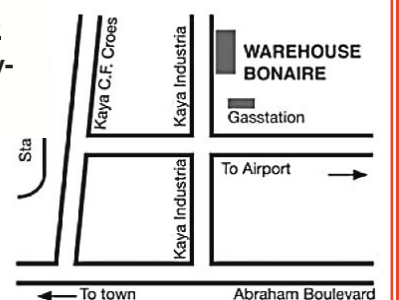


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Vanishing Shoes

PART 5 IN THE SERIES,
DOWN IN THE LAND OF BON BINI

I love the coastal road, that looping asphalt path that rings the southern part of Bonaire. Officially it's called EEG Boulevard. EEG is the Dutch acronym for the European Economic Community, the group that funded the road's construction back in 1967. However, I simply call it the Road To Strangeness.



Why that ominous title, you may ask? Where else can one see waters colored Pepto-Bismol pink and Windex blue all in one sweep of the horizon? And then there are the hoodoos—at least that is what I call them—those strange, haphazard sculptures of beach trash that come and go on a whim. Some folks lament the amount of rubbish on this part of the island, but at least the phan-

tom sculptors are putting it to some use. I never actually see anyone build these things. The hoodoos simply seem to appear and then evaporate.



The best hoodoo I ever saw was made of stone. I called it The Ode To Klondike Bear. The monument had a Stonehenge-like altar of rock slabs about a meter high. Placed on top was a massive rock that was shaped like the Klondike Bear Ice Cream logo. The resemblance was remarkable. This hoodoo could easily have belonged to some pagan tribe that would ritually sacrifice an unfortunate virgin on a summer's solstice.

But don't mind me. Whenever I travel the southern route, my mind wanders to places where it rarely goes, neglected crevices perhaps best left alone.

Blame it on the location. The south end of the island shimmers with intense heat.



Rocks, bent trees, scrawny shrubs and crusty salt water dominate. This place warps the mind. Normal senses of sight and hearing are altered. Even breathing rhythms change. The demanding environment is so intense that mirages soon take over. It is easy to visualize Don Quixote and his loyal sidekick, Sancho Panza, breaking the horizon and casually leaning against the Red Slave obelisk on a hot, cloudless day. The terrain here would have made Salvador Dali drool. The stark landscape screams for visions of melting clocks.

Beyond my altered perceptions, I have experienced several strange events that are not on the Top Ten island attractions list. One happened just a few weeks ago. It started out as just another Sunday road trip,

driving the southern ring to check out the Salt Pier with its T-Rex erector set-like loading dock, kite boarders going aerial at Atlantis, and crashing waves on the Wild Side, the churning, windward coast. Usually by the time the loop is completed at Lac Bay, I'm due for a stop at the Beach Hut to quaff a cold, draft Heineken beer.

But this is not just another Sunday. At the start of the drive, I look ahead and see two bicyclists coming toward our car. One of them holds his handlebar stiffly with his left hand. In the other, he cradles a baby flamingo. All three, the two bikers and the bird, stare determinedly straight ahead as we pass. They don't even blink as we drive by. I could not believe my eyes. "Did you see

(Continued on page 15)

Going on Holiday?
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It's Still Free- Until Halloween

The deadline for coastal residents for a free connection to the sewerage system is only three months away

In 2011 the kloaka team (sewage team) started to connect private houses located within 200 meters of the coast to the sewerage system. So far, according to Michael Blom of the kloaka team, about 150 houses have been connected. Seventy-five commercial objects like major hotels and apartment buildings and around 750 houses still need to be connected.

The connection is obligatory; it's a legal requirement that homes and businesses located between Hato and Punt Vierkant will be connected to the public sewerage system.

Owners or renters of coastal buildings have to sign up before October 31st and then the obligatory connection will be done for free. If you are too late, you have to pay for it yourself, and for the majority of people that will be totally unaffordable.

It's an immensely costly operation of millions of dollars paid for by the government, and the

goal is to get the system working as soon as possible.

The project team itself makes a plan of how to address the job and will try to take your wishes into account, but due to time constraints, the largest infrastructural project Bonaire has ever known, it will not always be possible to meet your requirements.

The fact is, when making the connection your terrain will be dug up – something that is necessary but not very pleasant.

However, the project team works carefully and neatly. And it's not acceptable that you suffer damage because of the work. Therefore the team will take photos of the situation before and after.

Therèse Chirino, member of the kloaka team, is making house calls on a daily basis during lunch time from noon to 3 pm and in the late afternoon/evening from 4 to 9 pm. She'll be happy to visit you and will bring the documents for you to sign up.

You can call her Monday through Thursday from 8:30-10:30 at 782-6389 or you can mail the team at bonairesewageproject@hotmail.com.

The public will also be informed about the latest develop-



'Protect our environment – our sea and our land: No more wastewater into the soil or into the sea'

ments of the project through the newsletter, AWA AWE, which every household will receive in their mailbox. There's also a Facebook page kloaka.bonaire and a website www.bonairegov.an

Make sure you are on time to get your connection for free and tell your friends and neighbors who might live elsewhere or who are sick or temporarily off island, to sign up before Halloween, October 31st, 2013.

And remember, it's not a voluntary issue; connection is a must! ■ Greta Kooistra



A trench must be dug from the house drain pipe to the sewer line



Following the connection, the soil is replace and smoothed

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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)

► As of January 1, 2013, many foods were **exempted from the 8% “sales tax”** (ABB) which was levied on imports or production. The measure was intended to reduce the price of basic food items and lower the cost of living on Bonaire. **It hasn't happened.** Volunteers from the Consumers Union, Unkobon, have been checking since November 2012. Their last check, done the first week of February 2013, showed that for the most part (10 of 13 surveyed) markets haven't lowered prices. Some prices have even risen. Details are contained in the report ABB MONITOR 2012-2013 of April 4, 2013. Go to www.consumentenbonaire.com for more information



► **Jong Bonaire held its annual week-long wake-boarding camp last week.** Paco and Pinchon, the counselors, are clearly good teachers, as they reported that some participants are getting better than them! This is the second year that the Outlet Mol apparel shop donated Billabong lycras to prevent sunburns from the five days on the sea. Four lucky guys won Outlet Mol gift certificates as prizes for their

accomplishments. Jong Bonaire is a non-profit after school/summer program for teens/young adults, and your support is always appreciated.

► **According to an authoritative website, the Dutch Territory, Aruba, has the world's highest tax rate. The top taxing countries are:**

1. **Aruba** with a rate of 58.95% for those with income of at least \$171,149 has the highest standard of living in the Caribbean. The country also has a 25% tax on capital gains. The rate is double the average rate in the Caribbean and is especially astounding considering the zero income tax in the Bahamas, Bermuda and Cayman Islands.

2. **Sweden**, at 56.6% for those with income of at least \$85,841, is a welfare state where citizens get free education and subsidized healthcare. Sweden also has a 30% tax on investment income, as well as significant rates for property holdings and social security.

3. **Denmark** comes in at 55.38% for those with income of at least \$70,633. Denmark also taxes dividend income by 28% and capital gains by 42%.

4. The **European Netherlands** has a 52% tax for those with income of at least \$70,090 which is the highest tax rate in Western Europe. Average income in the country is \$57,000.

► **Created for the US Navy SEALs, suspension training bodyweight exercise develops strength, balance, flexi-**



(Continued on page 13)



On the visit to Contour Global (ex-Ecopower) the PM kept out of the powerhouse

Rutte visit (Continued from page 3)

economic council, is working on a strategic plan, hoping that in five years there will be more private economic developments of companies by mainly (young) local people. So take your chance and dare to take action in starting your own business, he said!

Rutte sees many opportunities on the island since Bonaire is a “hub” between Europe and South America. Bonaire has a lead with her languages and central location, making the island ideal, he says, especially in economic terms—in order to be more independent in the future.

When asked whether this visit was in preparation for the Royal visit later this year he said, no.

It's encouraging to learn that the Prime Minister is concerned about the lack of Bonaireans starting their own businesses. What he observed is that outside interests are invited to invest here. As Mr. El Hage said regarding the Sunset Beach property, “We want three developers doing 100 rooms each (300 total).” El Hage went on

to say, “We've gone from 400 beds to 1,200 beds. We want to speed up the process to get 900 extra beds. But now is the time to look for a bigger partner.” He did not mention the proposal of a Bonaire group who recommended a smaller Sunset Beach development offering beach access to locals and shops for local businessmen.

■ *Story & photos by Wilna Groenenboom / L.D.*

Editorial note: The present Dutch Prime Minister, Mark Rutte, majored in history at the University of Leiden receiving his masters in 1992. Rutte is unmarried. He is a member of the Protestant Church in the Netherlands. He still works as a guest lecturer at the Johan de Witt College in The Hague. He belongs to the VVD party.

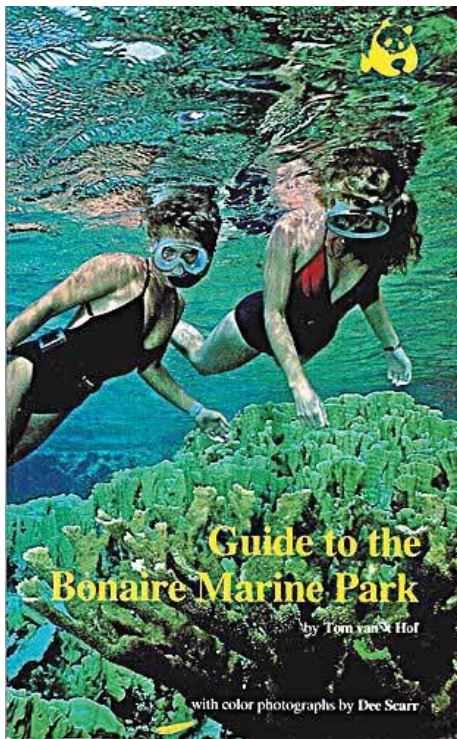
Writer-photographer for this article is Wilna Groenenboom who began teaching at the same school in August 2007. She lives nearby. Groenenboom is a former Art Director for *The Bonaire Reporter*. ■

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Tourism History

TOURISM HISTORY PART 12- STINAPA NATIONAL PARKS

Part 2: The Marine Park



the marine treasures to preservation of the same. He took a stand against spear fishing – which became illegal in 1971–



Dee Scarr, pioneer in guided underwater tours

and personally kept an eye on what divers took from the ocean during their dives. Any one of his hotel guests who surfaced carrying a piece of coral would have to deal with him. Those who had the nerve to object to his remarks and those who became repeat offenders could go and pack their bags. They were taken to the airport by the Captain himself to be put on a plane home, without the piece of coral, of course.

One day, during such a showdown between Stewart and an unruly diver, there was a man from Curaçao, an avid diver himself, who witnessed the Captain in action. He approached him, inviting him to get together and talk. **Carel Steensma**, former director of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines on Bonaire's sister island, had the same keen interest in the preservation of the marine environment of the Caribbean islands as Don Stewart. In 1976, he wrote a memorandum with the subject, "Conservation and wise use of marine parks" (relating to Curaçao) in which he stated that the island of Bonaire could very well serve as an inspiring example in this respect with its radical ban of activities that endanger reefs and marine life.

Steensma was a personal friend of **Dutch Prince Bernhard**, chairman of the World Wildlife Fund at the time. With this important connection and their personal zeal, Steensma and Stewart succeeded in getting sufficient funds to realize the foundation of a marine park in Bonaire. The funding came from the World Wildlife Fund of the Netherlands, from the Government of the Netherlands, from the Government of the Netherlands Antilles and from the Island Government of Bonaire.

The Bonaire Marine Park opened in 1979. Landhuis Karpata, the abandoned main house of the Karpata Plantation, locally known as 'Kas Grandi' (the Big House), became the Park's headquarters and research center in 1980, when it was inaugurated by Queen Beatrix. The first Marine Park manager was **Tom van 't Hof**. His first project was to protect the reefs around Bonaire and Klein Bonaire. To prevent damage to the living coral by dive boats throwing out their anchors, permanent mooring systems were put in place in 1978 and 1980. Forty 55-gallon twin drum sets, donated by the power and water company WEB, filled with concrete, were sunk under the guidance of Tom van 't Hof, his assistant manager **Eric Newton**



Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, Hugo Gerharts in the front row with several Dutch celebrities at the foundation of the Turtle Club



In the 1950s -working on a hawksbill turtle shell

and Captain Don Stewart. Heavy equipment, a crane barge, was sponsored by BOPEC, the oil transshipment company on the island.

In the early 80s, the Marine Park went through difficult times. The funding (like the one from the WWF) that had enabled the founding of the reserve, dried up and the Park management had to look for new ways to finance the future of the project. An innovative idea, to ask an annual fee to be paid by each diver, met with resistance by the dive operators. It was nonetheless enacted in 1990: each diver had to pay the annual fee of \$10 for which a tag was issued. Divers did not object; they were rather proud to help support the Marine Park. A new Marine Park Manager was appointed: **Kalli de Meyer**, followed, in 1991, by four Marine Park Rangers.

On October, 1999, the Marine Park got a new and more important status: it became a National Park of the Netherlands Antilles. This status allowed the Bonaire National Marine Park to receive increased funding and it also increased its judiciary powers: ships in violation have been held under arrest and fined. The same has happened to poachers.

In 2005, legislation gave chief rangers and managers the power to write tickets and enforce the laws of the park. The divers' fee was changed to a so-called Nature Fee of \$25 annually for Scuba divers and \$10 for all other users of the Marine Park territory, like windsurfers and swimmers. The tags also permit entrance to the

Washington/Slagbaai National Park.

The Bonaire National Marine Park welcomes about 38,000 visitors per year. The protected area extends to 60 meters (200 ft.) of depth, to 300 meters (984 ft.) from the shore, including Lac Bay and Klein Bonaire. It not only protects reefs but also mangroves and sea grass beds. The total area that it covers is 6,672 acres (2700 hectares). The total number of moorings is 75.

Turtles have been the first to receive protection by law (1961). A "Turtle Club" was founded with a mission to fund activities to protect and study Bonaire's Sea Turtle. In 1991, the rather elitist "Turtle Club" was folded into the egalitarian Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB), a non-governmental (NGO) research and conservation organization. Their mission is to continue the protection and recovery of Bonaire's sea turtles such as the endangered species, the hawksbill, green- and loggerhead turtle.

Tropical fish and turtles, flamingos and loras have their protected habitats in Bonaire, while divers have their own Habitat—the hotel established by Captain Don that continues today.

Perhaps because of these early conservation efforts, diving and other water sports are the island's main tourism industry. The Bonairean waters are considered one of the top diving sites in the Caribbean, if not in the entire world.

The Institute for Environmental Studies has evaluated the tourism value of Bonaire's ecosystems and came to the following conclusion: the expenditure by tourists on Bonaire is found to be approximately \$125 million annually. An estimated \$50 million dollars is contributed by Bonaire's nature to tourism. Stay-over tourists are found to contribute more to the tourism industry than cruise tourists, and marine ecosystems are found to be more economically significant than terrestrial ecosystems on the island. ■ **Evert Bongers**

(sources: Bonaire Reporter archives, www.bmp.org/history and research by *Bòì Antoin*).

Coming up: Cruise Tourism, L D & Hugo Gerharts



The preservation of the underwater world of Bonaire dates back to 1961. Historically, the catching, consumption and exportation of turtles was a major part of the staple food, culture and economy of the islands of the Netherlands Antilles. Turtle soup was on the daily menu while the shell was generally used for different purposes, as ornament, export product and souvenir. In 1961, the laws were changed to protect these species that were on the brink of extinction. This law, however, did not do much to alter the habits of the population. Turtle meat was prohibited on restaurant menus but there is a story that a tourist once asked if he could order a turtle steak in a certain restaurant. The waiter's reply was affirmative, which was reason for the tourist to state that he would never ever eat at such establishment. And he left.



Captain Don and Carel Steensma in 2004. Carel passed away in 2006.

An important mover and shaker in the marine preservation field was **Captain Don Stewart** who arrived on the island in 1962. Initially he started a business of exporting tropical fish and he organized spear fishing tournaments for tourists. But overnight, he converted from exploiting

"Freedom of Spirit" Performance



On June 22 the Dance Sensation Dansschool presented an innovative and impressive performance to a standing room only audience. Dozens of young

performers, from three years up through teens, danced to the music of R&B, jazz and Hip Hop among others. The "Freedom of Spirit," performance was part of the week

-long celebration of 150 years since the abolition of slavery and featured much of the music of black Americans, including our own Ralph Stewart. Choreography was by

Liliane de Geus, Mieke de Low and Michelle van der Wiele. ■ *Laura DeSalvo*

Dive Friends Clean Town Pier

Photo: Cleanup Volunteers at the Dive Friends pier



Story & photo by J@n Brouwer

On Sunday, July 13th volunteers checked in around 9:30 at the Yellow Submarine location of Dive Friends Bonaire. Goal was the underwater world of the Town pier. After dive activity was from

6 pm at the Hamlet Oasis location of Dive Friends Bonaire. The picture was taken in front of the Yellow Submarine. Try to count the number of volunteers! Dive Friends Bonaire supplied free air, the main course of

the potluck barbecue and a free drink. All volunteers came with all kinds of side orders, deserts, and so on. After the barbecue all the plates and cutlery had to be washed by hand as Dive Friends does not work with

throw away plastics anymore. Divers found almost eight hundred glass bottles, 139 beverage cans, one Speedo and one pair of underpants, eight hats and 252 pieces of fishing line. No condoms this time.. ■ *J.B.*

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SEARCHING FOR MUSEUM BONAIRE

Last week I went in search of the Museum Bonaire. I was surprised to find it locked in stifling Storage Unit #15 at Rorcargo. Apparently last October, SKAL (which stands for Section Culture Art and Literature), the curators for the museum, moved the Museum contents from the old Cas di Hadrey building at Sabana #14 and, lacking a space to set up the Museum, put the artifacts into Storage Unit #15 for temporary storage. This has turned out to be not so temporary. The unit is under the control of the Island Government. NAAM (stands for National Archaeological - Anthropological Memory Management) in Curaçao took inventory and approved the shed to store Bonaire's ancient artifacts, precious paintings and skeletons.



Old Bones on exhibit

This is a grave concern for those of us who know about storage of paintings and artifacts. Heat and humidity are the enemy of such things. And they've been stored for almost a year.

How did they wind up in a storage unit? What happened along the way to have the contents travel from a possible landfill destination to the Museum but wind up in a storage shed? What happened in between and where is it going from here? These were the

questions that weighed heavily on my mind as I began my search. I was somewhat hampered by not wanting to bring old ghosts and politics into the mix, but anyway I think that is possible – so here goes.



Museum Bonaire at Sabana #16 with proud founder Frans Booi

The first Museum collection was in a small room in Fort Oranje under the office of the Harbormaster. **Father Brenniken** and **Elis Juliana's** collections from people of Bonaire were stored under the watchful eye of **Willy Wanopa** and **Bubu St Jago** for some years. When the room at the Fort was needed for the ever expanding government the collections were thrown into the prison cells where they languished in a terrible state. When it was time to restore the fort it was decided to throw the things into the landfill and be done with them.

Not everybody agreed with this, so the **Assistant Lt. Governor Avelino Cecilia** called a teacher, **Frans Booi**, who was well



Past Department of Culture and Education employees: Max St Jago, Hilda Anthony, Winfred Dania, Herbert Cecilia, Papy Cicilia, Lientje Domacassé, Frans Booi

known through his radio programs for his interest in culture, and told him that if he wanted these things than he should pick them up before they were dumped. Armed with his Volkswagen truck Mr. Booi picked up the boxes and carried them, one by one, to his own property for safe keeping until they could have a home of their own. Here the artifacts stayed from 1976 until 1978 when Frans Booi became the head of the Central Department of Culture and Education Section- Bonaire.

A building was obtained and by 1988, with the help of funds from OKSNA, the Museum Bonaire was in full swing in a Kas di Porchi house at Sabana #16, rented by the central government from **Mr. Mauricio Marchena**, a well known ship owner in Bonaire.

The entrance to the Museum Bonaire became an auditorium for about 20 people. Among other things the Museum was well used for teaching young primary school kids and telling them stories. Cultural activities, guitar lessons by music teacher **Prof. Rudy Bedacht** and poetry and short stories were published and promoted. Tradi-

tional, folkloric events were coordinated by **Max St Jago**. There was a full radio studio, a TV studio and photo studio for making weekly cultural programs. Tours were operated from the Museum. The Museum had many tools and art supplies for painting and sculpture lessons. **Wine Franssen** was brought in from Holland to teach art. She along with her husband, **Jan Lambada**, lived in what is now It Rains Fishes. **Nochi Coffi** was one of the first pupils. Students, like **Lilian de Geus** and **Gabby Mercera**, were sent to Holland and the US with grants to further their artistic skills. The list goes on and on. Even religious groups who had no place of their own – like the Mormons – used the auditorium from time to time.

Back then the Museum Bonaire was new. It was an interesting and exciting place to be. Under Frans Booi it was always busy and thriving. Funds to run the Museum Bonaire were earned by the Museum through resourceful programs, donations and rentals. ■ **Maggie Booi Kaiser**

In the next edition: Recent developments

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Bonaire at Nijmegen



The 2013 Bonaire Team flank Sports Commissioner Kroon: Henky and Nolly Wilsoe, Roy Martinus and the North Salinja Roadrunner, Nazario Alberto.



2013 street Nijmegen scene

One of the most effective ways Bonaire gets positive publicity in The Netherlands is its annual participation in the world-famous Four Days of Nijmegen walk, *Vierdaagse Nijmegen*, the largest walking event in the world. Bonaire usually sends four or five walkers every year

who consistently finish the grueling 40-50 km. walks in conditions ranging from blistering heat to chilling rain. We hope to have a more detailed report in the next edition. The walkers are sponsored by Krioyo Paint. ■ *Press release/ G.D.*



Results from last issues' reader survey polling our readers for their favorite stories or feature cam up with the following preferences:

- 1 Flotsam and Jetsam
- 2 Remember Slavery (Dance)
- 3 Hans Hass Memorial
- 4 On the Island Since
- 5 Helmets On Wheels

.....Thanks to all who participated.

We ask you to select your favorite five stories or features in this edition. Follow the "survey" link in the on-line *Reporter*. Print readers can send an email with favorites.

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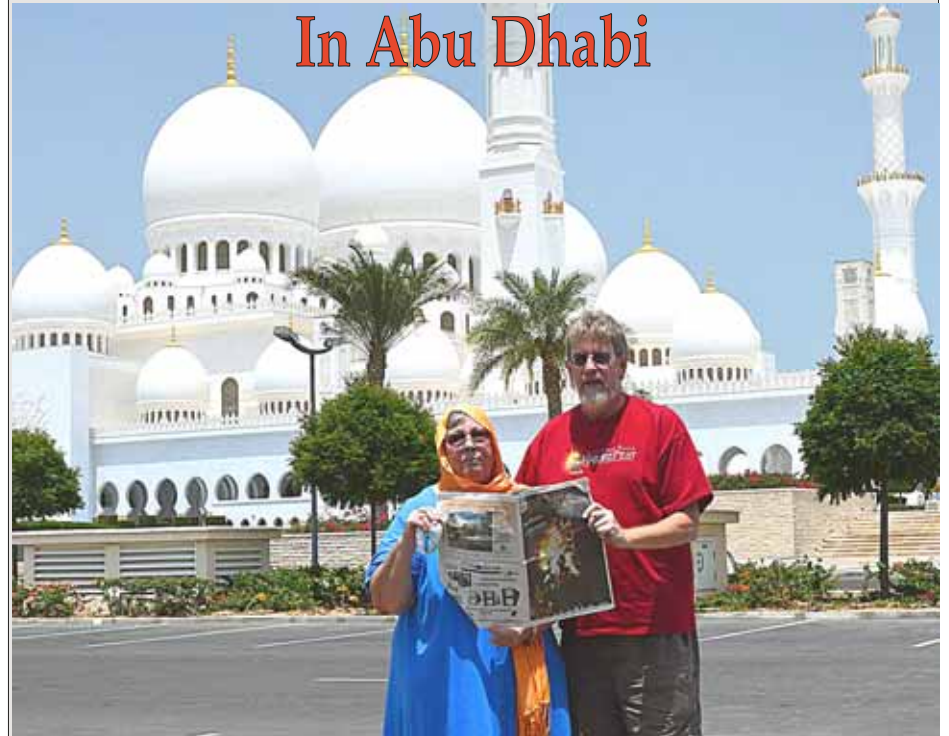
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Registration by De Freewieler or before 7:30am at the start

Entrance Fee\$10- Fruit and sport drinks provided



Picture Yourself With The Reporter In Abu Dhabi



Ann and Jerry Weeks, owners at Lighthouse Beach Resort, have been coming to Bonaire since 1984. Here they are on a recent vacation in Abu Dhabi in front of the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, one of the largest in the world.

Their trip encompassed Abu Dhabi, Dubai and the golden triangle in India (Delhi, Jaipur, Agra). They lugged the *Bonaire Reporter* along and have pictures in each country. ■

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 *Krav Maga /kra:v mə'ga:/ (lit. "contact combat") is a non-competitive tactical martial system developed in Israel that consists of a wide combination of techniques sourced from boxing, Muay Thai, Wing Chun, Judo, jiu-jitsu, wrestling, and grappling, along with realistic fight training.

For Sale: Laptop; Toshiba. 15" w/case & cord. MS Vista Basic, Win 7, anti virus. Wireless. \$195 ono. **AJ 782 8088**

Gezocht; **Leuke auto**, full automatic call **782-7776**

Free magazines. Three years of "Sky and Telescope" magazine. I'd be happy to give to anyone who would like to read them. The collection includes all 12 issues from 2010, all 12 from 2011, and all 12 from 2012. **Phone: 717-8800 ext. 3503, Brad Swanson**

Original **Toyota towing bar** [towing ball mounted], price on request. - **Concrete garden table**, round 110mm, blue painted, \$ 60,00 and **4 chairs** colour blue, \$ 12,00 pp, almost new. **Phone: 717-2278 .**

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House for Rent two spacious bedrooms, one with airco. Furnished. Electricity, water and cable included \$900. Interested? **Call 795-9628/782-1592**

Ta Huur Kas - un kas ku dos kamer, kamer grandi ku airco. Ekas ta muebla. Tur kos inklui pa \$900, lus, awa y cable. Bo ta intersa?
 Anto jame **795-9628/782-1592**

Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 22		08:08 -0.22 ft	13:01 0.18 ft	17:39 0.04 ft	Full Moon	6:20	19:03
Tue 23	00:27 1.03 ft	08:57 -0.23 ft	14:17 0.27 ft	19:05 0.11 ft		6:20	19:03
Wed 24	01:26 0.93 ft	09:43 -0.23 ft	15:23 0.40 ft	20:43 0.16 ft		6:20	19:03
Thu 25	02:28 0.81 ft	10:27 -0.22 ft	16:20 0.53 ft	22:19 0.17 ft		6:21	19:03
Fri 26	03:31 0.69 ft	11:09 -0.20 ft	17:11 0.66 ft	23:47 0.13 ft		6:21	19:03
Sat 27	04:35 0.57 ft	11:48 -0.17 ft	17:58 0.77 ft			6:21	19:02
Sun 28		01:04 0.07 ft	05:37 0.47 ft	12:25 -0.13 ft	18:41 0.86 ft	6:21	19:02
Mon 29	L Quarter moon	02:11 0.02 ft	06:36 0.38 ft	13:00 -0.09 ft	19:23 0.91 ft	6:21	19:02
Tue 30		03:12 -0.02 ft	07:32 0.31 ft	13:32 -0.06 ft	20:03 0.94 ft	6:22	19:02
Wed 31		04:09 -0.04 ft	08:24 0.24 ft	14:01 -0.02 ft	20:42 0.95 ft	6:22	19:01
Thu 01		05:03 -0.05 ft	09:16 0.19 ft	14:26 0.02 ft	21:20 0.94 ft	6:22	19:01
Fri 02		05:57 -0.05 ft	10:09 0.15 ft	14:46 0.05 ft	21:57 0.92 ft	6:22	19:01
Sat 03		06:51 -0.05 ft	11:09 0.12 ft	15:02 0.08 ft	22:34 0.89 ft	6:22	19:00
Sun 04		07:43 -0.04 ft	12:29 0.12 ft	15:07 0.11 ft	23:11 0.85 ft	6:23	19:00
Mon 05		08:30 -0.04 ft	23:49 0.79 ft			6:23	19:00

For rent Nice house in Almere, the Netherlands with 4 rooms for students, family or holidays. Also for short stay.

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Apartment for Rent in Hato. \$375. Phone **796-3637** digitalis1956@hotmail.com

Flotsam and jetsam (Continued from page 8)
ility and core stability simultaneously. And classes for using it are available several times a week at **Bon Bida Spa and Gym, across from Sand Dollar.**

It uses the TRX Suspension Trainer, a performance training tool that leverages gravity and the user's body weight to complete hundreds of exercises. - See more at: <http://www.trxtraining.com/suspension-training>. You're in control of how much you want to challenge yourself on each exercise because you can simply adjust your body position to add or decrease resistance. Expect to get a fast, effective total-body workout to build a rock-solid core and increase muscular endurance.

► **Bonaire's Art and Culture Foundation announces music lessons for children** (8-14 years) on Wednesdays at Sentro Tutarutu, Kaya Rincon #56. **For adults:** theory and basic sound engineering Call 717-6327.

► **DeFreewieler** just got in some top-of-the-line **full suspension bikes by Giant.** Totally supreme at \$3,800. Wow! Kaya Grandi 61. ■ *G.L.D.*

Sudoku Puzzle

5	1							
		6	9	1				
			8		3	4		
		9	4					
	8					1		
	3				2	7		
6			7		5	8		
7		2					6	
3	5		6					

Sudoku Solution

7	9	8	4	5	6	1	8	3
5	8	3	1	9	7	2	4	6
1	4	6	3	8	5	9	7	2
9	3	7	2	1	4	6	5	8
8	1	4	6	2	3	5	7	9
3	7	5	8	9	1	4	6	2
8	2	9	5	4	3	7	1	6
6	9	1	7	3	4	2	8	5
4	5	2	9	1	8	6	3	7

SHOPPING and SERVICE GUIDE

AIRLINES

Divi Divi Air- Bonaire's "on time airline" with 16 flights a day between Bonaire and Curaçao. Your first choice for inter-island travel. Now flying to Aruba.

APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

City Shop, the mega store, has the island's widest selection of large and small home appliances, furniture, TV, computers, cell phones and more. In-store financing too.



AUTOMOBILE DEALER

Check out **Auto City Bonaire** for the widest selection of new car brands on Bonaire including Chevrolet, Honda, Isuzu, Suzuki, Subaru. Used cars too. Complete service department. Hertz rentals.

BANK

ORCO Bank offers one-on-one attention, personal banking. Each client is a person, not a number. Office in the historic building at Kaya Grandi 48.

BARS

Zazu Bar at the Harbour Village Marina is all you expect in a great bar. Super bartender, quality drinks and friendly service. Plus Bonaire's only Rum Bar— over 50 types!

BEAUTY PARLOR

Hair Affair. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials and facial waxing. Great new shop on Kaya Grandi. Walk-in service too

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ON and IN the WATER

Budget Marine has what anyone with a boat needs, and if it's not in stock they can order it quickly. You can also find special hardware for general use and components for solar and wind electric systems.

Dive Friends has four dive schools and three retail shops so you always get the best deals and can be assured of top notch training. Remodeled shop open now.

UNDERWATER VIDEO

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GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

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HOME CARE

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RESTAURANTS

Bistro de Paris— Waterfront location at the Harbour Village Marina. Superb menu, genuine French dishes in a waterfront ambiance. Airco if you want it.

La Balandra at The Harbour Village Resort offers Bonaire's most spectacular setting. Superb cuisine, top notch service. Eat on the deck or with your feet in the sand.

Pasa Bon Pizza—Bonaire's quality pizza-Best ingredients, best baking and best taste. Great salads and lasagna too. Eat in or take away.

RETAIL

Benetton, world famous designer clothes available now in Bonaire at prices less than those in US. For men, women and children.

Bona Dea is Bonaire's newest Caribbean lifestyle shop featuring good taste gifts, apparel, shoes, accessories and home décor

SECURITY

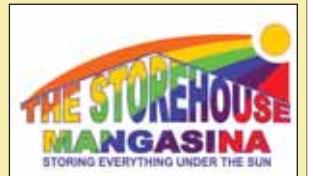
Special Security Services will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.

SAILING

Sailing Point Bonaire has several types of boat for rent. Instruction also available. Sailingpointbonaire@gmail.com or call 788-4882

STORAGE

The Storehouse (Mangazina in Papiamentu) offers Secure Storage for Vehicles, Household Items, Diving and Sporting Gear, Business Files or Inventory. Across from the northern hotel row.



SHIPPING

Rocargo Freight Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. **FedEx agent. What would we do without their superb services?**



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SUPERMARKETS

TOP Supermarket—

Conveniently located **downtown** at the old Culti-mara location. Featuring a complete selection including liquors, fresh meat, fruit and vegetables.



Warehouse Supermarket on Kaya Industria—Big air conditioned market with a friendly staff, the largest selection and lowest prices on the island. They stock what you need.



MADE ON BONAIRE

Semper Kontentu goat cheese. Ask for it at restaurants and look for it in the markets. Lovingly handmade. Mugs available.

VARIETY STORE

The Tung Fong Store is a great asset to everyone on Bonaire because it stocks so many thing we want: clothes, hardware, food, auto and bike supplies. If you don't see it... ask for it. They probably have it.

WATER TAXI

Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the *Kantika di Amor*. Hotel or downtown pickup The only water taxi to Klein Bonaire with an easy on/off built-in ramp at Bonaire Nautico (It Rains Fishes Restaurant)



what I saw?" I say to my spouse, Hettie. She had not. "That guy had a baby flamingo in his arms!" "Turn around," replies my road warrior. "I gotta' see this."

I do just that. In a Bonaire minute we catch up to the cyclists. It turns out that one of them is the one and only, Corine van der Hout. "We found this bird on the road and was afraid it might get hit by a car or attacked by the dogs nearby," Corine explains. "We're trying to take it to a safe place."

We offer to drive the bird to the Pekelmeer Flamingo Sanctuary on the south end of the island. Both Corine and her cycling buddy, Marco, are visibly relieved. It is not easy bicycling with a flamingo. Hettie holds a shopping bag while Marco gently places the young bird into the sack. It is still grayish-white, not having had the chance to eat the carotene-rich brine that gives the adult birds their distinctive orange/pink coloration. The three of us—Hettie, the flamingo and I—are soon off. Once we drive away, the bird struggles to get out of the bag. My take is that the young one prefers bicycling to car touring. My pragmatic spouse, however, deduces that the bird just needs to rearrange its long, gangly legs. Once that is done, the flamingo is quiet for the rest of the drive.

Fifteen minutes later, I stop the car at the Pekelmeer. This place is a flat expanse of shallow, saline water, dotted with scrubby bushes and an occasional rock. It is a brutal environment for us humans, but one in which flamingos thrive. We walk a hun-

dred meters with bird in bag to water's edge. Hettie places the sack on its side and urges our new-feathered friend to exit. It reluctantly stumbles out. Once released, the bird squawks heartily, casually struts to the shallows and takes a long sip of water. Then it flutters its wings and slowly walks away from us. The bird is back to being a flamingo. With mission accomplished, we press on with a promise of a cold draft at the Beach Hut to celebrate a successful relocation.

But not so fast. Before we arrive we have to drive through the Land of Hoodoos, those funky monuments to madness that I referred to above. Earlier in the day, I had driven this same stretch of road to determine if the sea was calm enough for an East Coast dive. It was not. But now I notice



something strange, something that was not here just a couple of hours before. It is a large, black strip that starts at the base of a towering hoodoo, snakes through the rough rock terrain for 30 meters or so, and then crosses the EEG Boulevard to the other side. I stop the car to investigate. The black 'line' is actually a collection of flip-flops, sandals, and old sports shoes, flotsam apparently washed in from the sea. The shoes have been purposefully placed one in front of the other, traversing rock and road, and then abruptly ending on the other side. It is an impressive collection of meandering footwear with no destination home.

I quickly look around. Instinctively, I feel that someone is watching me. But there is no one to be seen. I only hear the crashing of waves, the gust of wind, the creaking wood of a distant hoodoo teetering in defiance of gravity. Four flamingos pass overhead, momentarily blotting out the sun and casting their stick-like shadows upon my face. Then they vanish. I ponder the significance of their numbers. Perhaps each flamingo is symbolic of the four salt pans designated by red, white, blue and orange. And if so, what does that mean? I try to connect the dots, but it has been a long morning. The heat is rising and I need water, or better yet, beer. I get back



On Thursday, July 11, the new ferry, *Krioyo Blue Curaçao*, travelled for the first time from Curaçao to Bonaire and tied up at the Town Pier. Darwin Gregg is the owner of this 27.8-meter-long aluminum vessel, built in 1980 and rebuilt in 1999. It can carry up to 181 passengers on two levels, one open on top and one enclosed space in the middle. There's a 10-man crew on board (captain, mate, engineer and sailors). Some crew members can also tend bar when the vessel is used for parties.

The boat arrived on Thursday morning and on Friday night had an introductory party attended by about 300 people. Monday morning it returned to Curaçao. The vessel will have a two-month trial period with two weekly crossings scheduled between Curaçao and Bonaire with a promotional price of \$70 for a return ticket. Beginning next month the ticket price will rise to \$81. You might even be able to ride free because the ferry's owners have some very attractive commercial deals with several companies on Curaçao. For example you can get free passage, including free transport of goods, by spending over \$500. Look for more details on their web-site: WWW.FerryKrioyoblueCuraçao.com.

Owner Darwin Gregg has big plans. After the two-month trial period he wants to start with two round trips a week: Curaçao, Aruba, Bonaire and Venezuela. And in the future he hopes to have three passenger ships and one ship for cars and trucks crossing the Caribbean Sea.

How successful this business will be will depend on the ship itself. Time and comfort will be the main keys to her success, I think. My last experience was aboard the *Chogogo* about 10 years ago. That catamaran ferry sometimes experienced rough passages from Curaçao to Bonaire because of the steep waves between Curaçao and Bonaire (see *The Bonaire Reporter*, August 15-22, 2009, Vol. 10 Issue 31, Page 2).

Travel times are about 3 hours and 15 minutes to Curaçao and 4 hours back from Curaçao. Darwin Gregg assure us that the trip will be comfortable because the hull (bottom of the ship) is perfectly designed for the job.

The *Krioyo Blue Curaçao* should prove to be a nice and comfortable ship, offering a fun alternative means of transport between the islands. Additionally, it can be rented for parties and events; for example, sailing to Klein Bonaire. ■ *Story & photo by Wilna Groenenboom*



into my station wagon and steer us toward Lac Bay. It is time to contemplate another magical journey along the Road To Strangeness.

Post Script. I returned to the hoodoos two days later. There was not a shoe to be seen. ■ *Story & photos by Patrick Holian*



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BONAIRE Heineken JAZZ FESTIVAL 2013 AUGUST 2 3 4

AUGUST 2ND, 7:30 PM, FORT ORANJE
Andreina Marcano Jazz Ensemble - Bonaire/Venezuela
Nina Strnad Trio - Slovenia
Levi Silvanie - Curacao

AUGUST 3RD, 7:30 PM, PLAZA RESORT BONAIRE
Nina Strnad Band - Slovenia
Trijntje Oosterhuis - Netherlands
Porfi Baloa i sus Adolescentes - Venezuela

AUGUST 4TH, 4:30 PM, PLAZA RESORT BONAIRE
Bonaire Jam Fest - Jam session with different artists
Miss Montreal - Netherlands



The Bonaire Jazz Foundation is an initiative of people from all walks of life who live on Bonaire and love Jazz in all its contemporary forms. The Bonaire Jazz Foundation started in 2005 and its first annual Jazz Festival was also organized the same year. Since then they have had eight fantastic and unforgettable music events.

The Foundation's main objective is to promote jazz music on our island. This means they try to bring musicians and the audience closer together by making the jazz art form more accessible to the general public. They also support young musicians with lessons and other facilities.

This year, the 9th edition of the Bonaire Heineken Jazz Festival will take place on the weekend of August 2, 3 and 4. The organization once again managed to put together a nice list of artists.

Friday, August 2

The festival opens with Jazz and Poetry at Fort Orange. Robbie Swinkels, long time program and music consultant, says, "We look forward to the action of the local ensemble of Andreina Marcano Gonzalez, the Slovenian Nina Strnad Trio and Curaçao-born but resident in the Netherlands Levi Silvanie. The performances of the musicians will be interspersed with short literary contributions of young Bonaireans who were part of the "Arte di Palabra" regional matches on Curaçao last March. Tickets for the opening night are only \$15.

Saturday, August 3

The site is at Plaza, next to the Topsy Seagull Restaurant where three bands will perform. Sound and light should be at its very best. Slovenian Nina Strnad appears again, this time with the full band for the opening concert of the evening. They are followed by Dutch singer Trijntje Oosterhuis and band.

Oosterhuis (born in Amsterdam, 1973) has long been one of the top vocalists in the Netherlands. At a young age she founded the rock band, "Total Touch," with her brother, Tjeerd. She later became successful as a solo singer and sang with big names like Al Jarreau, Queen, Andrea Bocelli, Burt Bacharach, Candy Dulfer among others.

The evening will end with a performance by

the Venezuelan salsa band, "Porfi Baloa y sus Adolescentes" where dancing is encouraged! The delicious salsa music, performed by this talented, popular band will go on until the wee hours. Tickets for Saturday night are \$50.

Sunday August 4

Special this year will not only be a jam session with the artists of the previous evening but also a complete concert on the big stage at Plaza. That's because the organization managed to contract the popular singer-songwriter, "Miss Montreal" and her band who will close the festival with a spectacular show. Visitors may enjoy a delicious beach barbecue, provided by Plaza. Tickets for Sunday are \$25.

Passepartout – an access card for all three nights for \$75, a savings of \$15 for the three tickets.

More information on the website: www.jazzfestival2013.com/bonaire-heineken-jazz-festival/

Individual and Passepartout Tickets available at Plaza Resort, Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino, Hotel Rochaline, Addo's Book Store, Flamingo Bookstore, Sunbelt Realty, Little Havana, It Rains Fishes and Spice Beach Club

Sponsors

This year the organization of the Bonaire Heineken Jazz Festival is again fortunate to have the support of its sponsors. Without their contribution, the organization of such an ambitious festival would not be possible. Thanks to title sponsor Heineken, the Prince Bernhard Culture, Tourism Corporation Bonaire, Plaza Resort Bonaire, Insel Air, Little Havana, Benetton Bonaire Eden Beach Resort, MCB Bank, Rocargo Services, Sunbelt Realty, Telbo NV, Breathe-IT, It Rains Fishes / Spice Beach Club, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino, Kontiki Beach Resort, Hotel Rochaline, Bonaire Tours, Van den Tweel Supermarket, PWC, Crooij and Flipse Insurance, Flamingo Communications, Budget Rent a Car, Bowalie Sailing charters, CATC, Don Andres, EnergiaVision and Mega Hit FM. ■ *Press release, L.D.*

DID YOU KNOW?



ABOUT TROPICAL CORAL FOUND OFF THE COAST OF THE NETHERLANDS?
Some corals raft on manmade flotsam. Corals of the species *Favia fragum* (photo above) have been found on an air cylinder that washed up on the coast of The Netherlands. These tropical inhabitants drifted across the Atlantic from the reefs of the Caribbean using the Gulf Stream and the North Atlantic Drift. This is an example of corals "rafting," or using floating debris to disperse their species. Rafting can be very beneficial for corals because it allows them to disperse great distances.

When corals reproduce they release their young into the water column where they float around until they find a suitable surface to settle on. There are several factors that assist the coral larvae to settle, but one of the most important is a hard surface to grow on. Some coral larvae settled on this piece of flotsam and found it suitable enough to grow on. The size of the colonies that were found on the debris indicates that they were large enough to reproduce before they died due to the cold. This means that a reproductively active colony of coral was drifting across the Atlantic potentially dropping larvae off along its path. This is a very good mechanism for the long distance dispersal and introduction of coral species to new localities.

It has also been thought that rafting will allow for distribution of corals into higher latitudes as the oceans continue to warm and the area of tolerable climates for corals expands. ■

John Tindle

John Tindle is from the University of Tulsa studying at CIEE



MONTHLY Goatcheese recipe Fresh and healthy

Goatcheese with chicory and pear

Amuse serves 4

Ingredients:

Goatcheese Semper Kontentu	100 gr
Chicory	1x
Pear	1x
honey	1 spoon
Walnuts	4 x
Cornsalad	25 gr

Recipe by Rik de Hek, food design student and former chef at Salsa Restaurant.

How to prepare:

Wash the chicory and peel the leaves from each other. Dice the goatcheese and put the cheese in the leaf of the chicory. Peel the pear and dice into small cubes from 0,5 cm. Top the goatcheese with the pear, some honey and a walnut. Put some cornsalad in the middle of your plate and decorate the filled chicory around it. A surprisingly easy and delicious amuse for you and your guests. Enjoy the taste and love and care of Aletta's Semper Kontentu goatcheese.

Available at Warehouse Bonaire



Or visit us at Tras di montagne
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Saturday, July 27—“Walk to Talk” Fundraiser, 6-10 am. Starts at Bon Bida Spa, to Mentor, Kralendijk, Bon Bida. \$10 includes towel & drinks. More on page 2.

July 22-26- AC Milan soccer training camp. Antonio Trinidad Stadium, Rincon 9 am-3 pm M-F Fee-\$375. Info: Phone 796-3525, www.milanjuniorecamp.com

Sunday, July 28—Mountain Bike Fun Race, 8 am, Lagoen-Landfill area, sponsored by De Freewieler. Call 717-8545 .

Augusts 2, 3, 4 -BONAIRE JAZZ FESTIVAL—



The Bonaire Heineken Jazz Festival 2013 is coming up on August 2, 3 and 4. The opening will be at Fort Oranje

by world class acts like our own **Andreina Marcano Jazz Ensemble** and **Levi Silvanie** with world pop jazz in English and Papiamentu. Great acts like 'Holland's best singer,' **Trijntje Oosterhuis**, **Venezuelan Salsa Band**, **Los Adolescentes**, and Slovenian jazz singer, **Nina Strnad** will perform at the Plaza. For more info www.bonairejazzfestival.com or [facebook.com/bonairejazz](https://www.facebook.com/bonairejazz) and for tickets mail info@bonairejazz.com

Sunday, August 4, September 1 – Local Art Exhibitions sponsored by the Bonaire Foundation for Art and Culture, at the Chi Chi Tan House behind Rose Inn, in Rincon, 10 am to 4 pm. Stop in while driving around the island, enjoy the art, the historical house, local snacks and drinks.

Saturday, August 17— Fundraiser Bingo for Tutti Frutti, Klup Patriotico, 8 pm, \$20. Bus from Rincon to town.

Wounded Warriors week, August 17-24. More info in upcoming editions.

REGULAR EVENTS

• **Bonaire Ayurvedic Vegetarian Kitchen**, open Tuesday through Friday, 12 noon to 1:30 pm, Go Green at Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona #47. Call for reservations 700-5488

• **Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours** \$21 (includes tax). Discounts for residents and local people. Tel. 717-8489, 540-9800.

• **We Dare to Care Park children's playground** - closed due to lack of financing.

Saturdays

• **Last Saturday of the month** – donate foods and household items to Food Bank (*Stichting voedselbank Bonaire*) from 10 am-4 pm, in front of Van den Tweel Supermarket

• **Open House at Semper Kontentu milk goat farm. Second Saturday of the month, 8 am to 12 noon.** 786-6950

• **Marshe di Kunukeru (Farmers' Market) 1st Saturday of the month**, at Kriabon, Kaminda Jatu Baco #55, next to Aquamarin School, 8 am to 1 pm.

• **Bonaire Animal Shelter's "Garage Sale" Pakus di Pruga—every Saturday, 8am-5pm.** At Kaminda Liberador Simon Bolivar, across from Brandaris Café. Tel. 717-4989. Drop off cast offs on Saturdays or at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road weekdays. 717-4989

• **Wine Tasting at Antillean Wine Company's warehouse on Kaya Industria, Second Saturday of the month, 7-9 pm. (Always call to make sure it's on: Tel. +5999-560-7539.)** Snacks and tasting of six wines for \$10 per person.

• **Soldachi Tours—See the real Bonaire and be transported back in time.** Learn about the history, culture and nature by Bonaireans from Rincon. Call Maria Koeks for more information—796-7870.

• **Petanque- Jeu de Boules, Saturdays 2:30 pm** Tera Cora ranch. Info: 786-0150

Sundays

• **Kunuku Arawak** - Music, drinks, local food, dancing, 10 am—6 pm. Live music starts at 4 pm. Tel.786-7210

Mondays

• **Soldachi Tours of Rincon, the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20-Call Maria, 717-6435-best island tour value**

• **Meet the Captain Night at Captain Don's Habitat Bar**– Get up close and personal with Bonaire's dive pioneer. The Captain will autograph your copy of his newest book *Reef Windows*.

Wednesdays

Divemaster's Night at Bistro de Paris Restaurant at Harbour Village Marina. Free house rum when you buy a coke.

30-minute Meditation at Yoga Bonaire, 12 noon, Bonaire Basics. Donation. 786-6416 or info@bonaireyoga.com

Fridays

Happy Hour party at Bistro Di Paris. Ricky Thomas performs Reggae, Soul, Latin and more 6- 9pm.

FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

Monday - Touch the Sea -- Will resume in November- Dee Scarr, honored as a member of the Women Divers Hall

of Fame, conducts Bonaire's Touch the Sea programs of personalized dive guiding. She presents a unique perspective on critters and corals, plus an updated Bonaire lionfish report, **every Monday when she's on-island** at 8:30 pm in the Aquarius Conference Center at Captain Don's Habitat, Call 717-8290.

Wednesday - Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) presents an informative slide show: *Sea Turtles of Bonaire*, at 8pm, every **2nd and 4th Wednesday** in the conference room at Captain Don's Habitat (717-8290)

BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

Mangasina di Rei, Rincon. Enjoy the view from "The King's Storehouse." Learn about Bonaire's culture. Visit homes from the 17th century. Daily. Call 717-4060/ 790-2018

Museo Sentro Chichi'Tan, historical home, behind Rose Inn, Rincon, open 10am-4pm daily. Tel. 786-6420

Washington-Slagbaai National Park Museum and Visitors' Center. Open daily 8 am-5 pm. Closed on December 25th and January 1st. Call 788 - 9015 or 796 - 5681

CLUBS and MEETINGS

Bridge Club - Every Wednesday, Bridge Club on Bonaire. 19:15, contact Jeroen Seegers for information tel. 717-4200 or 788-2819 or jeroen@telbonet.an

Darts Club plays every other Sunday at City Café. Registration at 4, games at 5. Tel. 717-2950, 560-7539.

Lions Club meets every **2nd and 4th Thursday** of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.

Rotary lunch meetings Wednesdays, 12:15-2 pm - Divi Flamingo Beach Resort in Peter Hughes meeting room upstairs above the dive shop. All Rotarians welcome. Call Gregory Obersi 785-9446.

Toastmasters Club meets every **two weeks.** For more information call Crusita de Palm at 786-3827 or Lucia Martinez Beck, at 786-2953.

CHURCH SERVICES

Protestant Congregation of Bonaire: (VPGB), Kralendijk, Plaza Wilhelmina; Sunday service-10 am in Dutch.

Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian; Sunday service-8:30 am in Papiamentu/Dutch.

Children's club-every Saturday from 4:30-6 pm in Kralendijk, (annex of the church.) Contact; Marytjin@gmail.com

or Daisycoffie@hotmail.com

International Bible Church, Kaya Papago 104, Hato, behind Bon Fysio/Bon Bida Spa & Gym on Kaya Gob. N. De-brot. Sunday 9am-Worship service in English; 10:45am-Sunday school for all ages. Tuesday 7:30 pm-Adult Bible study class. 717-8377 for more info or ride bonaireibc@yahoo.com

Catholic: San Bernardus in Kralendijk – Services, Sunday at 8 am and 7 pm in Papiamentu, 717-8304.

Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol, Saturday at 6 pm in English. Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9 am and 6 pm. 717-4211.

Assembly of God (Asemblea di Dios): Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on Sunday at 10 am. Wed. Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm. 717-2194

Ministerio di Kristu Hesus Services Sunday mornings at 10 am at Jong Bonaire Youth Center in English, Dutch and Papiamentu. Preaching the full gospel. Contact: 786-2557.

Prayer and Intercession Church, in English. A full Gospel Church located temporarily at Kaya Alexandrit # 20, Santa Barbara, Republiek. Services are held Sunday mornings 10am-11:30am. Bible studies in English on Monday nights from 7-8 pm. Contact: 717-3322

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints: Kaya Sabana #26, Sundays: 9 am Sacrament Services (Translation to English and Papiamentu upon request) 10:20am- Sunday School, 11:15 RS/YM/YW/PH Primary held from 10:20-12 noon Visitors welcome: Information: Call 701-9522 .

Foundation Fountain of Living Waters, Centro Fuente, Service Sunday at Kaya Aruaco 4 at 6 pm, in Papiamentu and Spanish. For Marriage Counseling, contact 717-2161.

Iglesia di Cristo (Church of Christ) Sunday: 10:30 am & 7:00 pm; Wednesday: 7:00 pm. Services in Papiamentu (English also if needed) Address: Kaya Msgr. Nieuwindt 25 (same street as Dr. Dorvil) Cell: 796-0721 email: iglesiadicristobonaire@gmail.com

Call The Reporter at 786-6518 if you have something HAPPENING

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

Take The Reporter Home—1-year subscription: By mail to US \$75; By mail to Europe \$170. By Internet, Free (asking a \$35 donation.) For information about **subscriptions, stories or advertising in The Bonaire Reporter**, PO Box 407, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean; phone (599) 786-6518, 786-6125, E-mail: info@bonairereporter.com

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Pets of the Week



We think this is one of the cutest photos taken at the Bonaire Animal Shelter. A whole “pack” of puppies surrounds Rachael, a volunteer. Thanks to the suggestion of a Shelter volunteer the owner of the mom, “Sasha,” agreed to bring Sasha and all her nine puppies into the Shelter. The Shelter would handle everything—giving medical care and finding the puppies homes and the mom would be sterilized and returned to the owner. Some of the puppies have been adopted already and one went to the States and became an American!

Volunteer Rachael was on the island for a few months and she spent three days a week at the Shelter, helping out. The puppies as well as the other pets up for adoption were very happy to have her.

Right now at the Shelter there are so many puppies to choose from – all colors, personalities, shapes and sizes. Not only that but there are some older dogs as well. The two things they all have in common are that they are healthy and “social.” That’s the only way they can be eligible for adoption. The adoption fee covers their “clean bill of health” checkup by the vet, worming, shots and even an ID chip as well as neutering. All that for just \$75!

Stop by the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 am-1 pm and 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. While you’re there take a look at the Pet Shop in the Shelter office – pet toys, collars, leashes, and more.

WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com. And <https://www.facebook.com/AnimalShelterBonaire>. See all the happy faces – on pets as well as people - as adoptions take place.

Shelter News

Help keep the Free Sterilization Program Alive. It was thanks to the Sterilization Program that mom “Sasha” was able to be sterilized to no cost to the owner, who couldn’t afford it. So Sasha is now back with her owner, enjoying life and no longer subject to having another big litter of puppies. You may contribute to the Fund via MCB Account #10616410 (“Sterilization Fund”) or Support Bonaire, Inc. WWW.SupportBonaire.org.

Shelter Art Auction Alert. Artists and craftsmen and women and others – the Shelter needs you. The annual Art Auction in December to raise funds for the Shelter would very much like to have donations of art or crafts, or services (like carpentry, maintenance, painting) or entertainment, or other “saleable things.” The Auction is one of the best sources of raising funds in order to keep the Shelter open. And it’s lots of fun for everyone! If you can donate please call them at 717-4989. ■

Laura DeSalvo

Remembering Victor



Unfortunately this time his guardian angel could not fly faster than he drove his longboard. We’ll meet again. (Hopefully)



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SUMMER TRIANGLE AND MORE

During the summer sky watchers in the Bonaire Sky Park can easily observe the famous "Summer Triangle" formed by stars Vega, Altair and Deneb. Actually, the triangle can be seen from the mid-northern latitudes throughout the year, but it is especially visible during the summer season.

Interestingly Vega, Altair and Deneb are not only the brightest stars in the summer night sky, but they are also the brightest in their own constellations. Out of this trio the brightest is the white-blue Vega in the constellation Lyra, then the yellow-white Altair in Aquila, and finally the white Deneb.

As for their luminosity astronomers know Vega is without a doubt more luminous than Altair, even though it is 25 light years away from Earth, eight more than Altair.

This means that the light we see from Vega began its journey to our planet in the year 1988, while the light from Altair "departed" in 1996.

In comparison to the Sun, Altair is roughly 1.5 times bigger and nine times brighter, while Vega is more than three times bigger and 58 times brighter. However, both Altair and Vega, as bright as they are, are hard to compare with Deneb.

Deneb is a huge, supergiant star that is 1500 light years away from our planet and more than 85,000 times more luminous than the Sun.

The name Altair has been used since medieval times. It is an abbreviation of the Arabic phrase النسر الطائر an-nasr at-tā'ir (English: The flying eagle). The term Al Nesr Al Tair appeared in Al Achsasi Al Mouakket catalogue, which was translated into Latin as Vultur Volans. This name was applied by the Arabs to the asterism of α , β , and γ Aquilae and probably goes back to the ancient Babylonians and Sumerians, who called α Aquilae the eagle star. The spelling Atair has also been used.

Vega (later Vega) comes from a loose transliteration of the Arabic word wāqī' meaning "falling" or "landing", via the phrase an-nasr al-wāqī', "the falling eagle". The term "Al Nesr al Waki" appeared in the Al Achsasi Al Mouakket star catalogue and was translated into Latin as Vultur Cadens, "the falling eagle/vulture". The constellation was represented as a vulture in ancient Egypt, and as an eagle or vulture in ancient India. The Arabic name then appeared in the western world in the Alfonsine Tables, which were drawn up between 1215 and 1270 by order of Alfonso X.

Medieval astrolabes of England and Western Europe depicted Altair and Vega as birds. The name Deneb is derived from dhaneb, the Arabic for "tail", from the phrase ذنب النجاجة Dhanab ad-Dajājah, or "tail of the hen". Similar names were given to at least seven different stars, most notably Deneb Kaitos, the brightest star in the constellation Cetus; Deneb Algedi, the brightest star in Capricornus; and Denebola, the second brightest star in Leo. All these stars are referring to the tail of the animals that their respective constellations represent.

To observe the Summer Triangle, as the night falls, locate the brightest star in the eastern sky. When you have found Vega, to the lower left of Vega you can locate Deneb, and to the lower right is Altair. ■ Sources: Earthsky, Space, Wikipedia



Summer Triangle (Credit: Tomruen)



THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

End July 2013

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Be considerate and avoid being overly opinionated, or arguments will ensue. Pleasure trips will be most enjoyable and should lead to new and lasting friendships. You will encounter those who can help you further your goals if you attend functions that attract prominent people. You have more than enough on your plate already. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Put your thoughts on paper. Lighten up your serious attitude. Do your job and then spend some time with family; you'll be glad you did. Look into real estate. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) It would be in your best interest to stay away from any intimate involvement with a client or coworker. Don't let children or elders put demands on your time. Put your energy into home renovations. Prove your worth; concentrate on getting the job done and steer clear of office politics and gossip. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Don't make a move; your confusion has caused this dilemma and you are best to back away and reassess the situation. Don't hesitate to come right out and ask for the pertinent information. Be cautious who you deal with financially. Your lover may not understand your needs so you must figure out a way to communicate them. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Opportunities to make financial gains will develop through your connections with other people. Groups and organizations that indulge in social events to raise money will be conducive to meeting new and exciting lovers. Stop those bad habits. Visitors may relieve the tension. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Use discretion in your dealings and refrain from making verbal promises of any kind. Entertainment could cost you more than you expect. Minor accidents could occur if you don't take precautions. You can finish projects early, which will bring you praise from superiors. Your lucky

day this week will be Thursday. **LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Ferret out information that will hold them responsible. Don't overlook that fact that someone you care about may be hiding something. You are best to be discreet. Be prepared to take advantage of your good fortune. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Don't get involved in other people's private doings. Romantic encounters are evident through travel or educational pursuits. Your fun loving approach will be admired and appreciated by others. Find out if they have other commitments. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23—Dec. 21) Your ideas may be a little ahead of their time; don't push them, instead just continue working on development. You may not be that popular at home but you should be able to shine at social gatherings. Be sure to get involved in self-improvement programs that will bring you in contact with interesting people. Hassles with female colleagues may lead to problems with your boss. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Be cautious when dealing with coworkers. You will be extremely receptive to new and progressive methods at work. Pleasure trips should be on your agenda. Don't be afraid to pursue unfamiliar grounds. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Calm down and take a step back. Beware of someone who is trying to make you look bad. You can make money if you get involved in real estate deals. If you put your energy into physical outlets you will avoid confrontations. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Don't gamble unless you can afford to lose. You may want to get involved in financial investments presented to you. Don't ruffle the feathers of those you care about most. You will be relentless when it comes to getting yourself back into shape. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday. ■



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Sabadeco, Crown Shores 27

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